

Warner Named Agency Director

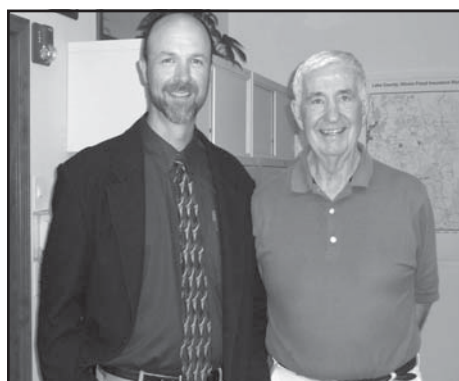
Mike Warner was named Executive Director at the August board meeting.

"Mike is well respected in the community and this Commission. He has been a leader in the agency for over a decade and as Interim Director, he demonstrated his ability to lead the agency into the future," said Steve Mountsier, SMC Chairman.

Warner will supervise a staff of 19 and a yearly budget of \$2.6 million. His mission will be to carry forward SMC's 2002 Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan Update including its flood hazard mitigation, regulatory, watershed planning and mapping programs.

"The Commission has discussed their expectations with me and I am

eager to meet the challenge. We have an excellent staff and a large network of partnerships to help us achieve our goals. I am looking forward to leading the agency in my new capacity," said Mike Warner, Executive Director.



Mike Warner, Executive Director, and Steve Mountsier, SMC Chairman.

IEPA Grant to Help Fund BMP Projects

A new Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) section 319 grant of \$345,000 has been awarded to SMC for more BMP projects in the North Branch Chicago River watershed.

For the past several years SMC has been working with IEPA and Friends of the Chicago River (Friends) to implement the recommendations contained in the North Branch of the Chicago River Watershed Plan. The North Branch Plan was completed and adopted by SMC and the County Board in 2000. Over the years, the North Branch grant review team, coordinated by SMC, has recommended and the IEPA has approved funding for over 38 projects.

To build these projects, SMC used

over \$2 million in IEPA 319 grant funds and our local partners contributed nearly \$5 million. As a result, over \$7 million in best management practices (BMP) projects that were recommended in the North Branch Plan have been built.

A portion of the new grant, \$95,000, is allocated for SMC's administration costs leaving \$250,000 for projects.

"SMC is excited to continue working with the IEPA, Friends and all our partners to install new and innovative BMPs," said Sean Wiedel, Watershed Planner.

Communities and groups in the watershed can apply for project funding. Watch SMC's website for more information.

WDO Appendix C Under Public Review

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is in the process of revising 18 Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Lake County. Appendix C of the Lake County Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) includes a comprehensive list of all FIRMs for the county.

In order for Lake County to stay in good standing with FEMA and their National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), Lake County has to formally adopt the revised maps. Since the FIRMs are listed in Appendix C, the county has to amend the WDO to include these new FIRMs with their new effective dates. Seventeen municipalities and unincorporated Lake County will be affected by the map revisions.

The newly revised maps will become effective November 16, 2006.

The 60-day public comment period applies only to the revision to the WDO, not the information on the FIRM. The public comment period closes on September 4, 2006. Written comments are welcome and should be sent to Joanna Colletti, Permit Engineer, SMC. For more information, call Joanna at (857) 918-5263.

See SMC's website for specific panels: www.co.lake.il.us/smc/regulatory/wdo/AppendixC.asp

**Upper Des Plaines Ecosystem
Partnership Watershed Tour
Oct. 17, 2006**

www.upperdesplainesriver.org/
Emphasis will be on increasing on-site
stormwater infiltration, pollution control

Go "Native" with Corporatelands

Openlands, founded in 1963, is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing public open space in northeastern Illinois.

Openlands Project's Corporatelands natural landscaping program encourages and supports corporations and large institutions such as colleges and hospitals that are interested in replacing their turf grass landscapes with natural landscapes of plants and grasses native to the Chicago region.

How the Program Works

Openlands Project staff will:

- Guide you through deciding where, when, and how to install natural landscaping; and
- Assist you in involving your employees in your natural landscaping; and
- Suggest how to explain the benefits of your natural landscaping to your many audiences.

By converting turf grass landscapes to natural landscapes that use native plants and grasses, you can reduce landscape maintenance costs, improve stormwater management and control flooding, reduce air pollution, deter Canada geese, increase regional biodiversity, visibly demonstrate your commitment to improving the environment and create a landscape that delights year round. Plus, you can realize cost savings since, once it is established, a natural landscape is considerably less expensive to maintain than turf grass.

To find out more about the Corporatelands natural landscaping program, see: www.openlands.org/Corporatelands.asp or call Shirlee Hoffman, Corporatelands Project Manager, (312) 427-6257.



Grainger, Inc. in Lake Forest is a Corporatelands partner.

'07 WMB Proposals Due October 17

Project proposals are being accepted for the 2007 Watershed Management Board (WMB) 50/50 cost-share grant program.

The complete application package is available on SMC's website. The grant program is funded through SMC's yearly budget and the total amount available is distributed amongst the four major watersheds. Proposals are due by October 17. See the dates below for more information.

Since 1991, SMC has been using the WMB cost-share program to assist local jurisdictions and groups with projects to reduce flooding, improve water quality and protect natural resources.

WMB application packet and deadline and other pertinent information is available at: www.co.lake.il.us/smc/projects/wmb/default.asp.

New Stormwater Award Program

Do you know someone doing good work to improve Lake County watersheds? SMC is accepting nominations for its first Stormwater Awards Program. Six categories have been established to recognize individuals, groups, and others who are advocating, implementing or monitoring projects and programs to improve watersheds and natural resources.

"There are lots of good things happening out there and we want to take the time to recognize the efforts of those who are doing them," said Mike Warner, Executive Director.

Award nominations are being accepted until Sept. 15. There are six awards:

- Watershed Stewardship of the Year
- Stormwater Manager of the Year
- Development of the Year
- BMP Project of the Year
- Media Award
- Community of the Year

Not all categories will necessarily be awarded every year. Anyone can make a nomination, however acceptance will be at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Winners will be notified ahead of the award presentations held at the November SMC board meeting. See the insert for award category criteria and submittal instructions.

WMB Project Proposal Schedule for 2007

Aug. 15	Request for Proposals mailed to WMB members and others.
Aug. 15-Oct. 17	Pre-proposal meetings with SMC staff (if requested by applicant).
Oct. 17	Deadline for all proposal submittals.
Oct. 17-Nov. 21	SMC staff review and refine proposals with applicants.
Nov. 21	SMC staff funding recommendations forwarded to WMB.
Dec. 13	Annual WMB Meeting 6:30 p.m. at SMC.
Late December	WMB recommendations to SMC Board.
Jan. 4, 2007	SMC Board approval.
Jan.-Feb. 2007	Development of Intergovernmental Agreements for SMC approval.
March 1, 2007	SMC Board approve WMB agreements.
Mar.-Nov. 2007	Grant recipients complete 2007 WMB projects.



Announcing the first annual **STORMWATER AWARDS PROGRAM**

The first annual Stormwater Awards Program recognizes individuals, communities, groups and others whose efforts reflect SMC's core mission of flood damage reduction, water quality, natural resource protection and enhancement.

We're looking for nominations in six categories for SMC's annual Stormwater Awards Program:




-  Stewardship of the Year
-  Stormwater Manager of the Year
-  Development of the Year
-  BMP Project of the Year
-  Media Award
-  Community of the Year



Photo by Jill Hughes Photography.

Nominations are due by September 15, 2006. On the back is the official Nomination Form and category criteria. Please use a separate form for each nomination.

Not all categories will necessarily be awarded every year. Anyone can make a nomination, however acceptance will be at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Winners will be notified ahead of the award presentations at the November 2, 2006 SMC Board meeting.



First Annual
STORMWATER AWARDS PROGRAM
Nomination Form

Name of Nominator & Phone/Email: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Category being nominated for (please circle one):

Stewardship of the Year	Stormwater Manager of the Year	Development of the Year
BMP Project of the Year	Media Award	Community of the Year

Description of the Person/Project/Agency/Development (attached page(s) acceptable):

Pictures are encouraged but will not be returned and may be used for SMC newsletters, website and other publications.

Send nomination form and attachments by September 15, 2006 to:

Stormwater Awards
LCSMC
333-B Peterson Road
Libertyville, IL 60048

For more information, contact Susan Vancil, (847) 918-5265 or svancil@co.lake.il.us.

Description of award categories:

Watershed Stewardship of the Year: Volunteer individual or group who has shown exemplary leadership and service improve a watershed via an innovative project or another pro-active activity that changes how we approach watershed issues.

Stormwater Manager of the Year: A professional stormwater practitioner, professional group/individual, local/state/federal agency/individual that has positively impacted one or more of Lake County's watersheds.

Development of the Year: Shows exemplary use of Best Management Practices in site design or site improvements that uses a suite of BMPs that exceed the requirements of the WDO.

BMP Project of the Year: Given for projects that are designed and implemented with effective Best Management Practices to meet multi-objective benefits.

Media Award: Individual reporter, newspaper, magazine, website, or other medium that has devoted articles or a series of articles on topics related to stormwater and floodplain management.

Community of the Year: A community who has participated in and/or led an effort to improve the watershed or components thereof.



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

JOB OPENING

PRINCIPAL PERMIT ENGINEER

Salary range \$63,000-\$97,000. Bachelors in Civil Engineering or related. P.E. required. Certified Floodplain Manager Certificate desirable. Provides a high level of knowledge and skills to lead the regulatory component of a countywide stormwater management program. Strong project management skills and some supervisory experience needed. Minimum four years of hydrology, hydraulics, and/or water quality modeling desired. Experience in site development design or regulations, GIS desirable; H and H modeling expertise required. Additional knowledge of best management practices and/or other stormwater-related engineering activities highly desirable.

Excellent benefits and a progressive leading edge work environment. **Position open until filled.** Send resume with cover letter, salary history and professional references to Michael Warner, P.E., Executive Director, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, 333-B Peterson Road, Libertyville, IL 60048, fax to (847) 918-9826, or email to mwarner@co.lake.il.us.



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

JOB OPENING

CHIEF ENGINEER

STARTING SALARY RANGE

\$80,884 - \$102,904 DOQ plus excellent benefits.

SKILLS AND BACKGROUND

Bachelor's degree in Civil, Environmental or Water Resource engineering. A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible management and stormwater management/water resource engineering experience. Professional Engineer's license in Illinois, or through reciprocity, the ability to obtain within 6 months required. This position involves the application of a high level of professional engineering knowledge and skills to watershed management planning and project design. Knowledge of the NFIP, COE, State of Illinois floodway rules and local stormwater, floodplain wetland and soil and sediment erosion control ordinance and experience in the administration of those ordinances. Acts as direct support staff to the Executive Director. Serves as Chief Enforcement Officer for the countywide Watershed Development Ordinance. Lead responsibility for all engineering aspects of the development and implementation of a countywide, comprehensive stormwater management program. Provides technical support to local jurisdictions and participates in other local, state and federal agency stormwater related efforts; including technical interpretations and policy recommendations related to the Watershed Development Ordinance.

SEND RESUME, SALARY HISTORY and PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES TO: Mike Warner, P.E., Executive Director, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, 333-B Peterson Road, Libertyville, IL 60048; phone: (847) 918-5267; E-mail: mwarner@co.lake.il.us

N. Chicago Students Aim for Water Quality

Over 2500 native plant plugs were planted with the assistance of Novak King Middle School students in order to improve water quality at the detention pond at the Lake County Health Department's North Chicago Clinic. The project focused on enhancing the existing detention basin flora at the 14th Street and Lewis Avenue facility.

Students from Hillary Sylvester's three science classes learned about the value of native plantings, how the project will benefit the water quality in the watershed, removed invasive species, and added new plants to previously planted prairie and native communities. Prior to the new plantings, the detention pond was tested for chloride, total suspended solids, and total phosphorus.

A post-planting sample will be taken at the end of the summer and compared to the pre-planting results. The project will also incorporate the help of students to aid in the maintenance of the site.

"It was exciting to see the students' enthusiasm and we are grateful for their help. We hope this project will be a model for similar detention basins in the watershed," said Mike Adam, a Senior Biologist with the Health Department.

Funding for the \$19,000 project included \$9,500 from the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission's Watershed Management Board grant program, and \$9,500 from the Health Department.



Novak Kind Middle School students install native plants at the North Chicago Clinic detention basin. Mark Pfister (in background), LCHD - Lake Management Unit guides the action.

Wetland Delineation Training Course Offered

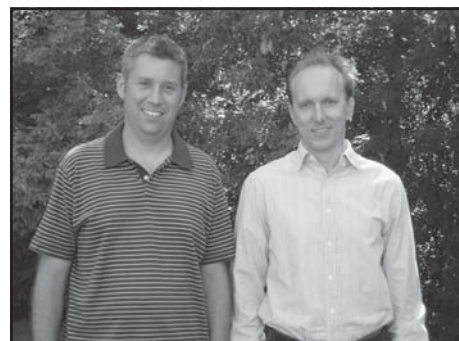
SMC will host a wetland delineation training course on August 21-24, 2006. The course will be taught by nationally-recognized experts Ralph Tiner and Peter Veneman of the Institute for Wetland & Environmental Education and Research, Inc. (IWEER).

This 4-day course is designed to provide students with hands on experience in identifying the three

required wetland criteria: hydric soils, wetland hydrology, and hydrophytic vegetation. Students successfully completing the course will receive a certificate of training, which is one of the requirements for becoming a Lake County Certified Wetland Specialist (CWS).

The course fee is \$775. To register, contact IWEER at (413)548-8866 or www.wetlanded.com.

SMC Staff News



The Commission welcomed new Watershed Engineer Rasto Vrazda (right), shown with Tony Wolff, Watershed Engineer. Rasto will be working with watershed related projects and planning. He has an extensive background in stormwater management and came to us from Dutchess County, NY. Rasto can be reached at (847) 918-7696 or rvrazda@co.lake.il.us.

We are saying good-bye to Sara Agahi, Principal Permit Engineer. Her family moved to San Diego, CA where Sara will be working for the San Diego County Watershed Protection Program.

Our interns this summer include (l-r) are Lorilee Kalman, Mike Prusila, and Dominic Strezo. They are working on stream and detention basin inventories, wetland impact research and GIS.



Check out our
on-line rain gauges!
[www.co.lake.il.us/smc/
rainweb/map.asp](http://www.co.lake.il.us/smc/rainweb/map.asp)

For more information, call Helena Sullivan,
(847) 918-7692.

Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

333-B Peterson Road

Libertyville, Illinois 60048

(847) 918-5260

www.co.lake.il.us/smc/default.asp

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Ann Maine, County Board #21

Brent Paxton, County Board #4

Maria Rodriguez, Village of Long Grove

Mike Warner, PE, CFM

Executive Director

Summer 2006 Newsletter

For Your Information

SMC Meetings - 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 7, Oct. 5. SMC offices.

TAC Meetings - 9:00 a.m.

Sept. 21, Oct. 19. SMC offices.

MAC Meeting - 9:00 a.m.

Sept. 13. SMC offices.

Illinois Floodplain Management

Desk Reference is a new document from the Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management. The Desk Reference includes a good overview of Illinois regulatory floodplains, information on floodplain maps and data, and permits; National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); NFIP's substantial improvement requirement; hazard mitigation; and other useful information for floodplain managers. To download a copy, see: www.illinoisfloods.org/certification.html.

Congratulations to Village of Lincolnshire's Jennifer Hughes...

Jennifer was appointed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the national NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Task Force. Lincolnshire is a Class 5 CRS community, meaning there is a 25% reduction in flood insurance rates for residents who may be required to carry flood insurance. The Task Force is charged with reviewing the CRS program but has an added urgency in light of the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina to reduce future flood damages through CRS.

Chicago Wilderness... is an alliance of more than 180 public and private organizations working together to protect, restore, study and manage the natural ecosystems of the Chicago region. See www.chiwild.org for more info on places to see and things to do.

Book Review

New Biography Recounts Life of Gilbert F. White

In "Living with Nature's Extremes: The Life of Gilbert Fowler White" author Robert E. Hinshaw tracks the fascinating life of the eminent, public-minded geographer Gilbert F. White.

Known as the "father of floodplain management" and the founder of the Natural Hazards Center, White spent his career studying nature's extreme: the hazards they posed for humanity and the political, scientific, and philosophical issues surrounding their mitigation and effective societal response. He made major contributions to the study of water systems in developing countries, the preservation and management of arid lands, international cooperation over water resources, and mitigation of a number of natural hazards.

The book is available for purchase from ASFPM for \$15, which includes shipping. To order your copy, call (608) 274-0123.